

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 through 18 (canceled)

Claim 19 (previously presented): A starting unit comprising:

an input which can be coupled to a drive and an output that can be coupled to a driven part;

a starting element in the form of a hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one primary blade wheel and one secondary blade wheel which, together, form a working chamber which can be filled with operating material;

an engaging and disengaging clutch, comprising at least two clutch elements that can be brought into frictionally engaged contact with one another in a direct or indirect manner via additional intermediate elements, the first clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the input in a rotationally fixed manner and the second clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the output in a rotationally fixed manner, and a first adjusting device assigned thereto;

a stationary or rotating housing that surrounds at least one of the blade wheels while forming an adjoining chamber;

the first adjusting device of the engaging and disengaging clutch being situated in the adjoining chamber while forming a first operating means material supply channel or space and can be subjected to the action of pressure prevailing therein;

the operating means material supply channel or space adapted to be connected at least indirectly to an operating means supply source;

means for influencing the transmission behavior of the hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one mechanical built-in part supported on and rotatable with one of the blade wheels in the form of at least one separate element that can be introduced into the working chamber or of at least one element forming a sub-region of the wall of one of the blade wheels, that acts at least indirectly upon the working circuit ensuing inside the

working chamber, the means for influencing reducing torque transmission by at least one of introducing the separate element into the working chamber to disturb the flow of the operating material or removing the element forming a sub-region of the wall to disturb the flow of the operating material; and

a second adjusting device assigned to the mechanical built-in part and means for subjecting the second adjusting device to a differential pressure, which results from the pressure in the first operating means supply channel or space or in a channel or space coupled thereto or in the interior of the housing and to a control pressure.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein:

the second adjusting device of the mechanical built-in part comprises at least one cylinder-piston unit, comprising at least one piston element guided in a cylinder, which with this forms at least two working chambers which can be subjected to pressure media at two front sides pointing away from one another – a first working chamber and a second working chamber;

the first working chamber is at least indirectly connected to the first operating means supply channel or space or to the operating means supply source, while the second working chamber is coupled to a control pressure supply system;

the piston is connected to the mechanical built-in part at a front side turned away from the front side subjected to the control pressure.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 20, wherein the piston at the front side coupled to the mechanical built-in part is subjected to pressure by the operating material from the first operating means supply channel or space or by a channel or space coupled thereto.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 20, wherein the control pressure supply system comprises at least a constant or controllable pressure media source, which is coupled via at least one valve device to the second adjusting device.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the mechanical built-in part is carried on the housing and/or on one of said blade wheels.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the first and second adjusting devices are supported on the housing, wherein the housing is either stationary or coupled to the primary blade wheel in a rotationally fixed manner.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 22, wherein the coupling to the pressure media source is conducted through the wall of the housing or an element coupled to an individual said blade wheel in a rotationally fixed manner.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein pressure medium is conducted from the operating means supply channel and/or space via a connection line connected at least indirectly to at least one of the adjusting devices.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 26, wherein the connection line is carried in the housing.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the pressure-media activated mechanical built-in part comprises an annular slide valve which can be moved in an axial direction and which is formed by an element extending in circumferential direction and is at least partially annular.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the pressure-media activated mechanical built-in part is formed by a bolt-shaped element that can be moved in an axial direction.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the mechanical built-in part is formed by a sub-region of the wall of a said one blade wheel, which is used to conduct the flow circuit.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the pressure-media activated mechanical built-in part is assigned to the primary blade wheel.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 19, wherein the pressure-media activated mechanical built-in parts are assigned to the secondary blade wheel.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 20, including a control pressure supply system that contains components of the operating means supply source and a conductance system.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 33, wherein a control pressure media source supply system is formed by the operating means supply source.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 20, wherein the control pressure media supply system is formed by a hydraulic or pneumatic system arranged in the environment of the starting unit.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 35, wherein a control pressure media source is formed by a space in which the control pressure media is relieved thus relieving the adjusting device.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 21, wherein the control pressure supply system comprises at least a constant or controllable pressure media source, which is coupled via at least one valve device to the second adjusting device.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The starting unit according to claim 20, wherein the pressure media-activated mechanical built-in parts are carried either on the housing and/or on one of said blade wheels.

Claim 39 (previously presented): A starting unit comprising:

an input which can be coupled to a drive and an output that can be coupled to a driven part;

a starting element in the form of a hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one primary blade wheel and one secondary blade wheel which, together, form a working chamber which can be filled with operating material;

an engaging and disengaging clutch, comprising at least two clutch elements that can be brought into frictionally engaged contact with one another in a direct or indirect manner via additional intermediate elements, the first clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the input in a rotationally fixed manner and the second clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the output in a rotationally fixed manner, and a first adjusting device assigned thereto;

a stationary or rotating housing that surrounds at least one of the blade wheels while forming an adjoining chamber;

the first adjusting device of the engaging and disengaging clutch being situated in the adjoining chamber while forming a first operating means material supply channel or space and can be subjected to the action of pressure prevailing therein;

the operating means material supply channel or space adapted to be connected at least indirectly to an operating means supply source;

means for influencing the transmission behavior of the hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one mechanical built-in part supported on and rotatable with one of the blade wheels in the form of at least one separate element that can be introduced into the working chamber or of at least one element forming a sub-region of the wall of one of the blade wheels, that acts at least indirectly upon the working circuit ensuing inside the working chamber;

a second adjusting device assigned to the mechanical built-in part and means for subjecting the second adjusting device to a differential pressure, which results from the pressure in the first operating means supply channel or space or in a channel or space coupled thereto or in the interior of the housing and to a control pressure; and

wherein said second adjusting device is controllable independently of said first adjusting device.

Claim 40 (previously presented): A starting unit comprising:

an input which can be coupled to a drive and an output that can be coupled to a driven part;

a starting element in the form of a hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one primary blade wheel and one secondary blade wheel which, together, form a working chamber which can be filled with operating material;

an engaging and disengaging clutch, comprising at least two clutch elements that can be brought into frictionally engaged contact with one another in a direct or indirect manner via additional intermediate elements, the first clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the input in a rotationally fixed manner and the second clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the output in a rotationally fixed manner, and a first adjusting device assigned thereto;

a stationary or rotating housing that surrounds at least one of the blade wheels while forming an adjoining chamber;

the first adjusting device of the engaging and disengaging clutch being situated in the adjoining chamber while forming a first operating means material supply channel or space and can be subjected to the action of pressure prevailing therein;

the operating means material supply channel or space adapted to be connected at least indirectly to an operating means supply source;

means for influencing the transmission behavior of the hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one mechanical built-in part supported on and rotatable with one of the blade wheels in the form of at least one separate element that can be introduced into the working chamber or of at least one element forming a sub-region of the wall of one of the blade wheels, that acts at least indirectly upon the working circuit ensuing inside the working chamber;

a second adjusting device assigned to the mechanical built-in part and means for subjecting the second adjusting device to a differential pressure, which results from the pressure in the first operating means supply channel or space or in a channel or space coupled thereto or in the interior of the housing and to a control pressure;

the second adjusting device of the mechanical built-in part comprises at least one cylinder-piston unit, comprising at least one piston element guided in a cylinder, which with this forms at least two working chambers which can be subjected to pressure media at two front sides pointing away from one another – a first working chamber and a second working chamber;

the first working chamber is at least indirectly connected to the first operating means supply channel or space or to the operating means supply source, while the second working chamber is coupled to a control pressure supply system;

the piston is connected to the mechanical built-in part at a front side turned away from the front side subjected to the control pressure; and

wherein said second adjusting device is controllable independently of said first adjusting device.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A starting unit comprising:

an input which can be coupled to a drive and an output that can be coupled to a driven part;

a starting element in the form of a hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one primary blade wheel and one secondary blade wheel which, together, form a working chamber which can be filled with operating material;

an engaging and disengaging clutch, comprising at least two clutch elements that can be brought into frictionally engaged contact with one another in a direct or indirect manner via additional intermediate elements, the first clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the input in a rotationally fixed manner and the second clutch element being at least indirectly connected to the output in a rotationally fixed manner, and a first adjusting device assigned thereto;

a stationary or rotating housing that surrounds at least one of the blade wheels while forming an adjoining chamber;

the first adjusting device of the engaging and disengaging clutch being situated in the adjoining chamber while forming a first operating means material supply channel or space and can be subjected to the action of pressure prevailing therein;

the operating means material supply channel or space adapted to be connected at least indirectly to an operating means supply source;

means for influencing the transmission behavior of the hydrodynamic component, comprising at least one mechanical built-in part supported on and rotatable with one of the blade wheels in the form of at least one separate element that can be introduced into the working chamber or of at least one element forming a sub-region of the wall of one of the blade wheels, that acts at least indirectly upon the working circuit ensuing inside the working chamber;

a second adjusting device assigned to the mechanical built-in part and means for subjecting the second adjusting device to a differential pressure, which results from the pressure in the first operating means supply channel or space or in a channel or space coupled thereto or in the interior of the housing and to a control pressure;

the mechanical built-in part is formed by a sub-region of the wall of a said one blade wheel, which is used to conduct the flow circuit; and

wherein said second adjusting device is controllable independently of said first adjusting device.